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Dear Harold,

Finally I have a chance to write! It has been so long since I have gotten the chance to sit down and bang out a few of the letters I am remiss about.

First, let me say that I hope both you and Lillian are well and enjoying the newly arrived summertime weather. As you might imagine, the heat and humidity is getting extremely intense down around these parts. We are into the rainy season now, and hardly a day goes by when we don't have at least a sprinkle.

Both Nikki and I are fine and reasonably content. And despite some financial problems, and an occassional battle between two or more pets, we're coping.

Well, with that out of the way, what did you think about all the hubbub over Ray's escape? I imagine you would agree that most of the House committee again suffered nearly fatal foot in mouth disease? The more they continue, the more they amaze. Even Gaeton Fonzi appears to be disillusioned about the lack of any kind of direction and sense of discipline.

I have been doing quite a bit of research at both the local and federal courthouses lately. There are quite a few cases involving some of the characters I've been researching (most notably McLaney and Somersett). I've also found some stuff on Sam Benton. The more I get into the McLaney-Benton connection, the more it intrigues me. And from some of the things I have been picking up from other researchers who have been coming into town lately, that interest is not confined to me. Scott Malone, who is doing a piece for New Times on Ruby-Rothman-Trafficante was also interested in McLaney. He told me he had been speaking to you. I tried to help him out as best I could, and he gave me several documents I hadn't seen before. (Oh, while I think of it, can I ask if you can send me the newly released documents pertaining to Somersett you said you had gotten from the FBI? Also, do you know anything about CIA documents on McLaney? A.J. Weberman claims to have some. If they do indeed exist, I think they could be extremely useful in what I am pursuing.)

Did I tell you that Miami Mag. received a threatening letter from McL's atty.? A guy by the name of Martin Blitstein. It seems McL learned of my probe via his ex-wife, whom I contacted. There are rumors that he is desirious of reentering the Bahamas; could that be why we got the letter?

Well, I must get to bed, it's about 2am. Our best to you both...

Regards,